

**What are you doing May 6<sup>th</sup> 2017?**

**Skate Canada Nova Scotia  
is pleased to present:**

***Celebration On Ice  
&  
Awards***

in conjunction with our

***Annual General Meeting  
2:00 Cole Harbour Place***

**Our goal is to have every club  
represented, make sure your's is!**



# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**MAY 6<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**2:00 pm**

**COLE HARBOUR PLACE**

**Dartmouth Nova Scotia**

## **AGENDA**

1. Reading of the Notice of Meeting
2. Awards Presentations
3. Report as to Quorum
4. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting
5. Reports, Chair, Board Members & Region Coordinators
6. Financial Report
7. Confirmation of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors
8. Election of Officers
9. Awarding of Competitive Venues
10. Unfinished Business
11. Review of Skate Canada Amendments & voting procedures
12. New Business –
13. Introduction of the 2017 – 2018 Board of Directors
14. Adjournment



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, May 7th, 2016

2:00

Cole Harbour Place, Westphal Room  
Dartmouth, NS

Ross Ashbourne welcomed everyone – called to order 2:04

1. **REPORT OF NOTICE OF MEETING** – Jill Knowles, read the Notice of Meeting (which had been sent to all clubs and board members February, March & April via e-mail. (By-law 9D) and called the meeting to order. Ross welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their time and introduced Norm Proft from Skate Canada.

Norm Proft from Skate Canada delivered Leanna Caron, President of Skate Canada's Message

ADULT AWARDS were presented to the winners by Terry Ackles and Ross Ashbourne, also awarded were 10 year pins.

Club & Recreation Coach Award of Excellence – Patti Gemmel-Collacutt

SC Section Volunteer Coach Award – Jessica Allen

SC Section Officials Award – Cheryl Smith

SC Section Volunteer Award – Barb Holmes

SC Officials Award of Excellence – Sheila Beard

SC Volunteer Award of Excellence – Susan Casey

10 year pins – Sara Brown  
Sarah Miles  
Laura Mombourquette  
Carol Lee Griffin  
Debbie Babin

## 2. REPORT AS TO QUORUM

Board Members - 10

Clubs – 13

49 persons present

*Ross introduced the present Board of Directors for 2015 – 2016.*

<i>Terry Ackles</i>	<i>Past Chair and Awards</i>
<i>Byron Humber</i>	<i>Vice Chair/Membership</i>
<i>Juanita Bezanson</i>	<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>
<i>Carol Breckon</i>	<i>Competitions absent</i>
<i>Heather Dawe</i>	<i>Skater Development</i>
<i>Braden Davie</i>	<i>Governance</i>
<i>Carrie Chiasson</i>	<i>Marketing</i>
<i>Sheila Beard</i>	<i>Officials Chair &amp; Judges/Evaluators</i>
<i>Verna Wirth</i>	<i>Data Specialist</i>
<i>John Mattatall</i>	<i>Coaches Rep</i>
<i>Katherine Short</i>	<i>Athlete Rep absent</i>
<i>Janice Jackson</i>	<i>Central Region Rep</i>
<i>Will Cobbett</i>	<i>Fundy Region Rep absent</i>
<i>Michelle Davey</i>	<i>Highland Region Rep absent</i>
<i>Carol Breckon</i>	<i>Valley Region Rep absent</i>

## 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Moved by Terry Ackles seconded by Juanita Bezanson - that we approve the minutes from the 2015 Annual General Meeting as circulated. Carried.*

## 4. REPORTS

*The adoption of the **Chairman's Report** as circulated was moved by Ross Ashbourne seconded by Janice Jackson - Carried. Ross highlighted Club Day, National Performance Centre and Canadians.*

*The adoption of the **Athletes' Representative's** report as circulated was moved by Ross Ashbourne, seconded by Helen Dawe Webb - Carried*

*The adoption of the **Awards Committee Annual Report** as circulated was moved by Terry Ackles, seconded by Sheila Beard - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Coaches Annual Report** as circulated was moved by John Mattatall seconded by Byron Humber - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Competitions Committee Annual Report** as presented was moved by Ross Ashbourne seconded by Juanita Bezanson - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Data Specialists Report** as circulated was moved by Verna Wirth, seconded by Carrie Chiasson - Carried. Verna thanked everyone for their support.*

*The adoption of the **Executive Directors Report** as circulated was moved by Jill Knowles, seconded by Carrie Chiasson - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Governance Report** as circulated was moved by Braden Davie seconded by Sheila Beard - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Judges/Evaluators Annual Report** as circulated was moved by Sheila Beard seconded by Carrie Chiasson - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Marketing & PR Report** as circulated was moved by Carrie Chiasson seconded by Helen Dawe Webb - Carried*

*The adoption of the **Membership Annual Report** as circulated was moved by Byron Humber seconded by Verna Wirth - Carried.*

*The adoption of the **Skater Development Annual Report** as circulated was moved by Heather Dawe, seconded by Braden Davie - Carried.*

**Cape Breton Region - vacant.**

*The adoption of the **Central Region Annual Report** as circulated was moved by Janice Jackson, seconded by Carrie Chiasson - Carried.*

**Fundy Region no report.**

**Highland Region no report.**

**South Shore Region - vacant**

**Valley Region no report**

## 5. TREASURER'S REPORT

*The adoption of the Treasurer's Financial Report as circulated was moved by Juanita Bezanson, seconded by Verna Wirth - Carried.*

*Ross spoke to the loss of monies from both the government and World Legacy coupled with decreasing membership. 40% of our monies goes to Skater Development after the fixed costs which we have no control over.*

## 6. CONFIRMATION of ACTIONS by the BOARD of DIRECTORS

**There are 2 omissions:**

June 2015 Meeting:

Motion: To increase the salary of the Executive Director by \$2,000.00

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Terry

Carried

February 2016 Meeting:

Motion: To give Jill a gift of a weekend away up to the amount of \$1,000.00 as a thank you for the work done for 2016 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Terry

Carried

*It was moved by Helen Dawe Webb seconded by Byron Humber that the actions taken by the board of Directors for the 2015/2016 year be approved. Carried.*

## 7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Terry reported nominations were as follows:

Chair                                      Ross Ashbourne

Members at Large                      1) Heather Dawe  
    2) no nomination

Therefore there will be no need of an election

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPETITION VENUES**

Ross Ashbourne announced the following venues:

Sectionals: November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 Dieppe NB

Fall Skate: November 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 Kentville NS

Winter Skate February 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2017 Dartmouth

STARSkate Provincials & Synchronized Championships February 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Liverpool

## **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS -**

## **10. REVIEW of SKATE CANADA AMENDMENTS**

Norm Proft reviewed the Skate Canada amendment with regard to the unification of the Ontario Sections and spoke to the on line voting and registration.

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

Ross spoke to the members in attendance about Club Day and as it was their day, please give us suggestions on how we can better help them. The Section does not know what clubs need and what we can do better unless we are told.

Norm Proft spoke as to the registration issues with Skate Canada this past season and what the relationship from Skate Canada to Section to Clubs is. He described that online, while not very friendly this season, will be in the future, which will include summary sheets for test days.

Brian Doherty Representative from World's Finest Chocolate had a display set up and spoke to the powers of fund raising.

Ann Palmeter spoke to the importance of being involved and how much one can get from volunteering. Her passion was overwhelming as it has been for almost 3 decades.

## 12. INTRODUCTIONS

Ross Ashbourne did not introduce the new 2016 – 2017 Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board as there were no changes from the 2015 -2016 Board that had been introduced earlier.

<i>Terry Ackles</i>	<i>Past Chair and Awards</i>
<i>Joanne Byrne</i>	<i>Past Chair</i>
<i>Byron Humber</i>	<i>Vice Chair/Membership</i>
<i>Juanita Bezanson</i>	<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>
<i>Braden Davie</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Carrie Chiasson</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Sheila Beard</i>	<i>Officials Chair &amp; Judges/Evaluators</i>
<i>Verna Wirth</i>	<i>Data Specialist</i>
<i>John Mattatall</i>	<i>Coaches Rep</i>
<i>Katherine Short</i>	<i>Athlete Rep</i>
<i>Janice Jackson</i>	<i>Central Region Rep</i>
<i>Will Cobbett</i>	<i>Fundy Region Rep</i>
<i>Michelle Davey</i>	<i>Highland Region Rep</i>

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:12 it was moved by Sheila Beard that the meeting be adjourned.

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Jill Knowles, Executive Director & Recorder

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Ross Ashbourne, Chairperson



## **Section Chair's Report 2016-2017**

The 2017 SCNS Sectional Championships hosted by the Deppie Skating Club on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as part of the combined sectionals and was a very successful event. The people, the venue, the hospitality was great and thanks go out to the New Brunswick Section, the organizing committee and the wonderful team of volunteers for contributing to the success of this event. This was a great competition and the skating was very good. We will be hosting the New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island 2018 sectionals which will be held in Amherst, Nova Scotia on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

A successful Club Day was held in New Glasgow on September 24, 2016, A lot of great information was shared with the clubs. Next years Club Day will take place in September 2017.

Nine single skaters a made up our 2017 Challenge Team in Montreal, the commitment and dedication is admired. Congratulation to all the skaters for proudly representing the section. Thanks must go out to our Team Leaders Terry Ackles and Jill Knowles for their role with our team, which can be challenging. The 2018 challenge event will be held in Montreal again.

The 2017 SCNS STARSkate and Synchro Skating Championship was hosted by the Queens County Blades Skating Club on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The people, the venue, the hospitality was great and thanks go out to Diane Hopper and her wonderful team of volunteers for contributing to the success of this event. This was a great competition and the skating was very good.

The 2017 World's Finest Chocolate Atlantic Canada Skating Championships was hosted by Skate Canada Nova Scotia in conjunction with Skate Canada Newfoundland, Skate Canada Prince Edward Island and Skate Canada New Brunswick on April 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> at the East Hants Sportsplex. This competition showcased some of the finest skaters in the Atlantic Canada which lead to many amazing performances. Thanks to Carrie Chiasson and here dedicated group of volunteers contributing to the success of this great event. Every year it gets harder to get volunteers for this event, it is your event, please step forward next year and help us.

Thanks to the Kentville Silver Gliders for hosting the 2016 Fall Skate and the Dartmouth Skating Club for the hosting the 2017 Winter Skate. Your efforts are appreciated by the section and the skaters. Both these events had a large registration and we are looking at how we can accommodate the increasing number of skaters.

Skating is built on dedicated volunteers and I would like to thank all the volunteers at all levels for your dedication and support because without out you skating would not happen for the athletics. We do need to increase the number active volunteers to lessen the workload and to insure none of our volunteers burn out.

Specials thanks to all our officials for the time and expertise they give freely at competitions and test days for the benefit of the skaters. Each year we been able recruit and retain officials. All of our officials that are qualified to work at national events received an invitation and officiated at these events, this shows the quality of our officials and their dedication to the sport.

Over the past couple of years, a committee of Terry Ackles, Joanne Byrne, Juanita Bezanson and Jill Knowles have been working hard on the creation of the Skate Canada Nova Scotia Hall of Fame. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the inaugural Award Ceremony will take at the University Club at Dalhousie University with 11 people being honoured. Thanks to the committee members for their hard work and I think a worth while endeavour as we honour our past.

A number of Skate Canada Nova Scotia members have been members of Skate Canada committees during the past year, thank-you for your efforts.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors of Skate Canada Nova Scotia who gave freely of their time and expertise during the past year for the betterment of our sport. The commitment level of these individuals has been outstanding and they make work of the Chair so much easier.

Enough cannot be said about the hard work and commitment of our Executive Director Jill Knowles, without her our section would not be able to run as efficiently and effectively as it does.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Ashbourne  
Chair Skate Canada Nova Scotia

## Awards Committee Report 2016-2017

Once again the Awards Selection Committee was faced with some difficult decisions when choosing one "winner" in each category due to the quality of the nominations received. Should you nominate an individual who is not selected for the award during that season, please consider nominating them again for consideration in the next season.

One goal of our strategic plan was to have every Club submit nominations for as many of the categories as possible. Although the goal has yet to be achieved, we still hope to meet it one day. Previously, we were concerned that one of the problems may be on-line submission of nominees which can be frustrating at times. This year, SCNS sent out a list of nominees prior to the selection date so that Clubs could see if any of their nominees were missing. With the number of additional names received following this message, I believe it should be continued each year.

In addition to the Section and National Awards, the group was also tasked with nominating individuals and teams for the Support4Sport Awards (formerly Ricoh Sport Awards), which will be announced next month.

It is with much pride the Awards Committee announces that the SCNS Hall of Fame will receive ten (10) inductees at the inaugural Induction Ceremony on June 10, 2017. Although it is a "virtual" Hall of Fame on our website, a reception will be held at the University Club on the Dalhousie Campus where we will honour the nine(9) individuals and one (1) team to be inducted this year.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to invite everyone to join us in supporting all of the nominees for the Section Awards as they are recognized off ice at the SCNS AGM and on ice at the Awards Gala Saturday, May 6 at Cole Harbour Place and again at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony June 10 at the University Club.

Much thanks to the members of the committee for all of your hard work yet again this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Ackles  
Awards Committee Chair



**NOVA SCOTIA COACHING REPRESENTATIVES  
ANNUAL REPORT OUTLINE  
2016-2017**

My name is John Mattatall and I am currently a level 3 coach working in Nova Scotia. I am the Coaching Representative in my third year of this position, I am also on the Nova Scotia Board of Directors and in addition to this I am also involved in the competitions committee, 2019 Canada Games Committee, Skater Development Committees, and I am part of the National Coaches Development Committee. The NSAGM will be held on May 06, 2016 and the coaches meeting will occur at 4:00 pm (topics for this meeting will be disclosed at a later date).

The plan for the 2016-2017 season was to:

- Entertain another season of successful NPC Atlantic seminars
- Continue working on the High Performance Pathway, in consultation with other provincial partners
- 2 seminars covering various topics maximizing coaching development
- Assist in creating the 2019 Canada Games Committee
- Increase knowledge around integrated sports management and available resources
- Hosting Club Day in September in preparation for the upcoming season
- Create sessions information sessions relating to the changes to the star 1-5 program

The season of 2016-2017 the second season of the Atlantic NPC which would involve all of the Atlantic Provinces (New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia) in order to try to increase our coaching knowledge so that our skaters may be more competitive within our country. They were as follows:

- December – Jen Jackson & Astrid Shrubbs Jump & Spin (Amherst, NS)
- February – Mark Pilay & Gordon Cobb Music & Choreography (St John's, NFLD)

Additional seminars that were run:

- Shae Zukiwsky – Program Components (St Margaret's Bay NS)
- Doug Leigh – technical development (New Glasgow NS)
- Nam Nugen – STAR development (Truro, NS)

- Katelyn Osmond – technical seminar (New Glasgow, NS)

For the most part these seminars were really well attended and all viewed as a success, they were highly motivational, in addition to this I would like to note that coaches were offered free admission to the NPC Atlantic events and facilitators felt were well attended from NS coaches.

Cheryle Gaston is Nova Scotia's CanSkate Resource person and she has visited, Digby, Wolfville and Sackville Clubs and consulted with many others informally. Janet Harvey led the Primary STARSkate NCCP Course last May and as in the past we coordinate with New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to offer NCCP Courses.

Throughout the season the primary mode of communication is through email and while responses from some questionnaires have been limited I have seen a more engaged group from the previous 2 years. This year has been another great year within the skating community to network through the competitions held in concurrence with the NPC and individual seminars held during the year.

In the upcoming year plans are to kick start the Canada Games team with a baseline fitness test/assessment in mid-June, to be held in conjunction with our first ever Hall of Fame event, and to run a July simulation in preparation for the upcoming summers competitions.

Challenges with having sufficient number of coaches in rural regions, especially the Cape Breton Region will be a focus.

Yours respectively

John Mattatall

# **Competition Committee Report 2016-2017**

## **2016/2017 Competitions**

This year, Skate Canada Nova Scotia continued to partner with the other Maritime provinces for Sectionals. This continues to be an excellent opportunity for Nova Scotia skaters to compete against a larger field of competitors. The NS/NB/PEI 2017 Sectional Championships were held in Dieppe, NB November 4-6, 2016. Next year we will continue to partner with the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Section, and our Nova Scotia Section will host Sectionals in Amherst, Nova Scotia the first weekend of November.

Nova Scotia Fall Skate took place in Kentville, Nova Scotia on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Our fall skate competition has been successful and has grown in numbers. Next year, we're looking to host it over two days.

Our Winter competition, known as the Rob McCall Memorial Competition, was held in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia from February 3-5, 2017 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. The numbers for this competition have also grown, as well as the events offered. Next year the section is planning on hosting this event at a two surface ice facility.

The Nova Scotia STARSkate and Synchro Provincials took place from February 25-26, 2017 in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. It was great to see an increased showing of Synchro teams at this year's competition. This too, was also a very successful competition for our Nova Scotia Section.

Finally, the World's Finest Chocolates Atlantic Skating Championships was held at the East Hants Sportsplex from April 7-9, 2017. This was a very well organized competition that featured the top STARSkate competitors from all the Atlantic Sections.

## **Competition Committee**

The 2016-2017 season is now completed and we now have our Competition Committee members in place. I would like to welcome to the committee; Sheila Beard, Jill Knowles, Carrie Chiasson, Ross Ashbourne, John Mattatall, and Rachel Keddy. This year we have continued to add to the Competition Manual, which is a working document. Our next steps for the competition manual is to add checklists for roles and responsibilities of each job required to run a competition efficiently (LOC, Tech Rep, Chief DS, etc).

Our competition committee has met in person, emails, and conference calls. We have been able to cover many topics at our meetings and we have some great ideas working together as a team. The competition committee will continue to review ways to help make competitions more accessible to all skaters around Nova Scotia.

## **Volunteers**

Nova Scotia Section is very fortunate in that we have many dedicated volunteers at the club and regional level. These experienced and new volunteers host our competitions with skill and enthusiasm, providing great events for our skaters, officials, and coaches.

Thank you to all our excellent volunteers for making everything possible. We couldn't run our competitions without you! We consistently try to encourage members to volunteer in order to help make our competitions run smoothly and efficiently. We suggest parents and club members become more involved with figure skating in Nova Scotia, whether it be at the Club level or beyond.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Doroshenko  
Competitions Committee Chair  
Skate Canada Nova Scotia

## **SKATE CANADA NOVA SCOTIA DATA SPECIALIST CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016-17**

It has been another rewarding year for the Data Specialists. Currently, the section has 13 active Data Specialists, and we are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers, who are passionate about supporting skaters. The skill level and numbers remains unchanged from last year, however, I am encouraging several of the Introductory DS to pursue their Level Is:

- 3 x Level III;
- 4 x Level I;
- 5 x Introductory; and
- 1 x DS-in-training

For each of the four competitions this year, with one to come, 7 to 12 Data Specialists were scheduled. Unlike last year, given the overall increased skill level and availability of experienced DS, it was unnecessary to bring in Data Specialists from outside the section.

A DS Clinic was held Sunday, October 30th, 2016. The clinic was very beneficial, and we are grateful to the Section Officials Chair, Sheila Beard for conducting a session on “How DS Work Effectively with Other Officials”. In addition, DS equipment and other Section equipment were brought out of storage for training purposes and it also facilitated testing of three new pieces of DS equipment, namely the EC, ACC computer and Tech Panel Replay Monitor as well as upgrading of the CSS to the new CSS release (16.0 version). In addition, prior to the clinic, two of the storage boxes holding obsolete/unused equipment were repurposed to house the printers, toners, camera and tripod. Another clinic is planned for early May 2017.

In terms of the CSS Equipment, it continues to perform very reliably.

There are three ongoing concerns regarding Data Specialist: Training, Succession Planning and Recruitment. Training of Data Specialists in the section remains challenging and, Skate Canada plans for e-learning and updated workbooks will help. Excepting the Level IIIs, the core volunteer base are Introductory and Level I DS, who for the most part are full-time employed with other family-related responsibilities on the home front. Without the dedication of all our volunteers, we would be looking outside the Section for DS. The competitions focus mostly on repetitive procedures with little opportunity for Intro/Level I DS to learn rules, or apply rules in order to progress to the next level. In addition, the core volunteers, who already face competing challenges for their time in their individual lives, are required on their own time to undertake the tedious and frustrating task of digging through the Skate Canada Info Centre website to find answers to workbook questions—some obsolete--and again, often without a base of reference or exposure to the rules/knowledge at the NS competitions that they volunteer for. In my assessment, this presents as two problems: no incentive or motivation to progress to the next level, and ultimately, in the longer term, no DS capable or willing to be appointed as the Chief or Computer DS. And, finally, although, we have enough DS for competitions, recruitment of new Data Specialists needs attention, addition of 2-3 more to the DS pool would be better. As the



trend this year appears to be the longer competition days, including earlier and later start times, a larger DS pool to draw on, would facilitate better sharing of the workload.

In conclusion, I would ask the Section to encourage clubs to recruit new Data Specialist, and in terms of training of Data Specialists, that the Section continue to advocate with Skate Canada to address improving DS training resources, a larger issue for small sections such as NS.

Respectfully submitted by,

Verna Wirth  
Chair Data Specialist

# SKATE CANADA NOVA SCOTIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2017

Another skating season has gone by very quickly and with the help of volunteers and coaches, skaters have been on the ice with smiles on their faces. The Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board are passionate people working on your behalf to create a wonderful skating environment, no matter what part of the province you live in. They are here to help and support our skating community. It takes many people to build a section and/or club and keep them running successfully, the dedication of those people is invaluable to our sport and our communities.

One of the most exciting announcements that I could be part of this season was in AMHERST when the Town Council voted to not charge any ice fees for programs run for children 18 and under. This was a ground-breaking idea and the deal was, that the savings for organizations, such as the Amherst Skating Club needed to be reflected in the fees that they charged. Councilors in AMHERST you get my GOLD MEDAL for this initiative and I hope that more places in Nova Scotia will follow your lead.

Club Day, was held in New Glasgow September 24<sup>th</sup> it was an opportunity for the sharing of knowledge with clubs, their volunteers and coaches, this will be happening again this September and I encourage all clubs to send at least 1 person. If you have any topics that you would like covered please let me know.

This year the National Performance Centre Seminars, NPC Atlantic continued as a project of Skate Canada for a virtual setting in Atlantic Canada and as a result 2 seminars were held for coaches & skaters in Atlantic Canada. Skaters were chosen to participate depending upon the focus of the seminar, all seminars had a high coach education piece, which all coaches were welcome to attend, with the philosophy being, the stronger the coach, the stronger all their skaters will be. December 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> in Amherst Astrid Shrubbs and Jen Jackson conducted a seminar with the focus being on jumps and spins for 19 Nova Scotian skaters and their coaches. Then in February 11 skaters, their coaches and myself ventured to Newfoundland for a 2 day seminar with Gordon Cobb and Mark Pilay on music & choreography, and stayed 5 days. When a group of skating people are snow bound together for 3 days you do a lot of talking about our sport and new ideas get generated, so was definitely productive time, and a trip the skaters will never forget I am sure.

Our officials were very busy as always with test days, competitions, monitoring and education.

- Did you know that after September 1<sup>st</sup> there will be NO MORE Preliminary and Junior Bronze tests? They will be replaced by coach evaluated STAR 1–5 assessed tests.
- Did you know that our officials will do video monitoring at any time throughout the year?

Their dedication to our skating community is something to be treasured volunteering countless hours away from their families each season to give our skaters opportunities to shine. They have had many development opportunities both in and out of our province. We have some growth in the Judge's population, but could certainly use some help with the Data Specialists growth (NO SKATING KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED).

Skate Canada's Ice Summit (formerly known as the Annual General Meeting & Convention and National Coaches Convention) was held in St John's NFLD May 2016, which was again very informative. This year's Ice Summit will be held in Ottawa with the AGM being held on Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>. **PLEASE remember that all clubs and coaches can join the meeting and vote remotely, but you do have to register on [www.skatecanada.ca](http://www.skatecanada.ca) under events.** The Section will have several people attending, who can carry your vote. This year the Halifax Skating Club will receive the \$500.00 Section Grant to attend the Ice Summit

The Primary STARSkate Course soon to be known as the Regional Coach Course was successfully held in May 2016 under the guidance of Janet Harvey. The same course will be held May 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> at Cole Harbour Place, again this year. We continue to work with New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to offer courses.

The CanSkate Coaches training now known as the Club Coach, will be delivered in New Brunswick August 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in Quispamsis and the ISPC soon to be known as the Provincial Coach Courses, for Dance, Pairs and Synchro will be held July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> also in Quispamsis.

A reminder to all clubs to send in Executive Lists with mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, this is **very important** for the communication of information. 2017 – 2018 Club requirements will again be, the signature of the Privacy Policy on behalf of their members, Annual General Meeting Minutes and Financial Statements. **I would urge all clubs to look at their constitutions in detail to see if the needs of your club are being met by this document.** Constitutions should be reviewed annually and any changes brought forth to the club's Annual General Meeting, with copies being sent to Skate Canada Nova Scotia. Our Governance Committee and their support persons have been kept extremely busy this season dealing with issues, some of which could have been avoided, with up to date constitutions, coaching contracts and everyone following the ethical guidelines as set by Skate Canada. Please refer to our Skate Canada Nova Scotia Club Dispute Resolution Guidelines document.

I was very fortunate to attend the following competitions, Kentville Fall Skate, Sectionals in Dieppe where the Maritimes came together once again, Challenge in Montreal, Rob McCall Memorial, Provincial STARSkate and Synchro Championships in Liverpool and the World's Finest Chocolate Atlantic Canada Skating Championships 2017. To the organizing committees of all competitions thank you, without the time you invest as volunteers these opportunities for our skaters would be lost. Please consider volunteering for a competition, as every hour that is given is truly a gift to our skaters.

Our Board continues its strategic planning journey, with the help of Michelle Aucoin from the Department of Community, Culture and Heritage.

I would like to thank our funding partners, for without whom many of our projects would not be possible, SUPPORT4SPORT, Sport Nova Scotia, the Department of Community, Culture & Heritage, Sport Fund, and 1990 World Legacy. Our sponsors Workplace Essentials, and World's Finest Chocolate. Also KidSport, without their support many children would not have the opportunity to skate in our province. KidSport gave 79 skaters in our province a total of \$21,600.00 worth of help in registration fees and equipment this past year.

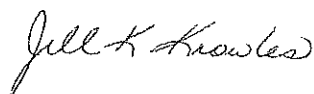
Special thanks to Jackie Atkinson, who does an amazing job keeping us all informed on the website and Facebook. To every volunteer in Nova Scotia a big **THANK YOU**, whether you have given 1 hour, or 1000, sold 1 chocolate bar or a create full, each and every minute given makes a difference to our skating community.

I am only a phone call 425-5454 ext 336 or e-mail [skatecanadans@sportnovascotia.ca](mailto:skatecanadans@sportnovascotia.ca) away, and can be available to come to your club to help in whatever way possible.

To our skaters, we do it all for YOU, whether you are 3 years old or 93 years old we are so proud of your accomplishments and love to see your smiling faces at the rink.

Best of luck with the 2017 – 2018 Skating Season,

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Knowles  
Executive Director  
Skate Canada Nova Scotia



## Governance Chair Report April 2017

The focus of the Governance Committee this year was to provide support to Skate Canada Nova Scotia clubs with their governance. This objective was met in the following ways.

During the annual Club Day, a presentation was made regarding appropriate club governance and the important role that constitutions play in club governance. Ensuring that club board of director positions are filled according to the club's constitution was also highlighted as being important.

The Skate Canada Nova Scotia board of directors passed a motion to adopt a code of conduct, which has been signed by all board members. All board members are expected to follow the code of conduct and new board members will be asked to review and sign the document upon commencing their term on the board.

Due to a number of concerns that have been raised to the Skate Canada Nova Scotia board, a decision was made to create the *Skate Canada Nova Scotia Club Dispute Resolution Guidelines*. This document can be found on the Skate Canada Nova Scotia website and offers helpful hints on club operations, how to chair meetings and how to address conflicts when they arise. This is the first version of this document and the Governance Committee welcomes feedback on its usefulness in the club setting.

In March a sub-committee was struck to evaluate the Skate Canada Nova Scotia constitution and by-laws. Due to a number of rule changes within Skate Canada, the decision was made to revise our current constitution and by-laws. The draft constitution and by-laws were drafted similar to the Skate Canada New Brunswick constitution and by-laws, which were revised a couple of years ago to reflect changes within Skate Canada. A big thank-you goes out to Heather Dawe, Jennifer Huygen, Ross Ashbourne and Jill Knowles for their work on this document.

We will continue to work with clubs to strengthen their governance capacity. If a club has any questions, we encourage them to reach out to the Governance Chair or the Governance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Braden Davie  
Governance Chair

## **Judge/Evaluator Committee Annual Report April 2017**

As the 2016/2017 season comes to a close I am very happy to report that interest in judging in our Section continues to grow. Sarah Miles and Susan Casey completed their Clinic Facilitator requirements at a Juvenile clinic in the fall and we currently have 5 Star officials trialing and working toward their Juvenile promotion. We also have a waiting list of 5 candidates for the Star training.

Our qualified judges have been very busy this year and have provided support to all competitions in NB and PEI as well as clinics in NL.

The Skater Development Committee has initiated a Video Feedback program, thank you to all those officials who helped complete the assessments.

Our competitions were bigger than ever this year. A great big thank you to our fantastic tech reps; Rachel Kelly and Natalie Doroshenko – FallSkate and Terrie Logue and Emma Smith – RMM, Sarah Miles was Assistant Tech Rep at Challenge in Montreal.

With the initiation of the coach assessed Star 1 to 5 tests we had a change in the Central Region Test days. Thank you to all our evaluators for making that possible.

A summer simulations were held July 15th 2016 at the Sackville Sportsplex and again August 20<sup>th</sup> in St Margaret's Bay with maximum participation from the judges and technical officials.

A summer pilot is being held for training in the new pathway for Juvenile judges; Jessica White's name has been submitted for that. Skate Canada is also holding training for Learning Facilitators in the new pathway and Sarah Miles has applied for that clinic.

Thank you to the members of the Judge/Evaluator committee Natalie Doroshenko and Heather Dawe for all your help and support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Beard  
Judge/Evaluator Chair  
Skate Canada Nova Scotia

# **Marketing and Communication**

## **Annual Report**

**April 24, 2017**

The Skate NS newsletter, Coastal Edge will continue – always looking for contributions to this newsletter.

World's Finest Chocolate Atlantic Canada Skating Championship - Competition Sponsors approached this year include:

- \* World's Finest Chocolate, title sponsor for the Atlantic Canada Skating Championships
- \* Atlantic Superstore
- \* Pizza Delight

Sponsorship continued from last skating season with World's Finest Chocolate for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

Atlantic Superstore, Pizza Delight and were more than happy to provide us with something for the Atlantic Canada Skating Championships.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Chiasson

Marketing and Communications Chair

**Skater Development Report**  
**Skate Canada Nova Scotia Section**  
**2016 – 2017**

The primary objective of Skater Development this past year was to build on and to refine our previous year's initiatives. Upon review of our activities over the past year, I feel that we had some success in accomplishing that primary objective, but will need to continue making adjustments moving forward.

None of the Skater Development initiatives would have been possible this year without the assistance and input of our excellent committee of volunteers and our Executive Director, Jill Knowles. The members of the Skater Development Committee for the 2016-2017 year were as follows:

Heather Dawe (Chair)  
Sheila Beard  
Braden Davie  
John Mattatall  
Angie Coady-Pennington  
Fallis Thompson

**Skater Development Initiatives**

The following sets out a summary of the various initiatives undertaken and supported by Skater Development over the past year.

Summer Simulation

On July 15, in conjunction with the Officials Committee, the Skater Development Committee organized an afternoon of simulations for our skaters. Skaters were given the opportunity to skate their programs in a simulated competition environment, with a panel of officials assessing their programs. Following their skate, the skaters and their coaches were given direct feedback from the officials. Overall, the simulations were quite successful, with approximately 25 skaters participating from throughout the province.

Shae Zukiwsky Clinic

On August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the Skater Development Committee offered a 2 day seminar and monitoring session at St. Margaret's Bay. The seminar and monitoring was facilitated by Shae Zukiwsky. Skaters and coaches were invited to attend and there was also a large number of our officials that participated. The seminar incorporated both on-ice sessions and off-ice sport science components. Unfortunately the participation in the seminar by skaters and coaches was lower than anticipated, but overall it was an excellent seminar. The skaters, coaches and officials that did attend had an excellent experience and learned a great deal from Shae.

Synchro

A "Synchro Day" was organized by one of our committee members, Fallis Thompson. This year, Synchro Day was held on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Hants Exhibition Arena in Windsor, NS. The facilitator was Jessica Brown, who is a National Certified Coach and is the head coach of the

Gold Ice teams in Brampton, Ontario. She was also a national and world level synchronized skating competitor with Gold Ice at the Junior level. Coaches were also invited to stay after the clinic to speak with Jessica about development of their teams and address any other questions they had. Overall, the clinic went very well. Approximately 95 people attended the clinic, including 7 teams, 6 individual skaters and 11 coaches.

This year we had 7 teams competing at the Provincial Synchronized Skating Championships in February in Liverpool and 3 teams attended the Atlantic Regional Synchronized Skating Championships in January in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador. Revolution (Juvenile) from Kentville took home the gold medal in their category and was also invited to attend the Nexxice International Seminar in July. The Acadia Axe-Elles (Intermediate) from Wolfville and Aurora (Pre-Novice) from Greenwood placed third and fifth, respectively.

### National Performance Centre Atlantic Seminars

Skate Canada continued its initiative from the previous year of running a "virtual" performance centre for Atlantic Canada, whereby our skaters and coaches would be able to access resources from the other national performance centers virtually. In conjunction with the National Performance Centre Atlantic, Skate Canada organized and provided funding for 2 development seminars throughout the year.

For both of the seminars, Nova Scotia was allotted a certain number of spots for skaters in the seminar and all coaches were invited to attend the seminars. Participants for the seminars were selected by a sub-committee of the Skater Development Committee. Decisions were based on the criteria set by Skate Canada and skaters' performance at Sectionals, with our focus being on the developmental levels of Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile. We were very pleased with the participation level by our skaters in Nova Scotia. We filled all of our spots for the seminars, and when we were allocated additional places because other provinces could not utilize them, we were able to fill those as well.

The first seminar was held in Amherst, Nova Scotia on December 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The clinic was a "Jumps and Spins Booster Workshop", focusing on tips and techniques to improve jump and spin performance. Nova Scotia had 19 skaters attend, with most of their coaches. The seminar was facilitated by Jen Jackson and Astrid Shrubbs. The second seminar was held in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland and Labrador, on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The focus of this seminar was Music & Movement and was facilitated by Mark Pilay and Gordon Cobb. Nova Scotia had 11 skaters and 5 coaches attend the seminar.

The overall quality of the facilitators and seminars was excellent and we're hopeful that we will be able to continue working with Skate Canada in the coming season to continue offering these seminars to our skaters.

### Canada Winter Games Committee

The final initiative undertaken by the Skater Development Committee this year was to organize the Canada Winter Games Committee. The committee members are as follows:

Braden Davie (Chair)  
John Mattatall  
Angie Coady-Pennington  
Sheila Beard



Rachel Keddy  
Jill Knowles

Under the exceptional direction of their Chair, the committee has accomplished quite a lot since their formation, including the development of the Skate Canada Nova Scotia's 2019 Canada Winter Games Pathway. Their other initiatives will include hosting mandatory training events for the Canada Games Prospects Team, raising money to help fund athlete training for the months leading up to the Canada Winter Games, implementing the Canada Winter Games Training Pathway and selecting the team to attend the 2019 Canada Winter Games.

In the coming year our hope is that we can continue to improve upon the initiatives we started in the 2016-2017 season and establish some new initiatives, in particular, respecting our StarSkate and CanSkate programs and the Canada Games Prospects Team. In doing so, we plan to work towards accomplishing the goals set out in the Skate Canada Nova Scotia Strategic Plan, and provide all of our members with the opportunities and support they need to succeed.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather E. Dawe  
Member at Large, Skater Development

## **CENTRAL REGION ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

Central Region continues to strive to provide the best possible opportunities for skaters. We are fortunate to have many great volunteers in our clubs and many very talented coaches.

I am happy to report that most of our clubs have been able to maintain fairly strong membership.

This year we were able to provide bursaries to the skaters from our region that attended nationals. We were also able to offer bursaries to our clubs to either help a skater continue in our sport or to offset club expenses. Two of our clubs took advantage of this offer and one club offered to donate their share back to registrations for next years Skatefest.

We continued to have cntralized test days in the Region in 2016 but are now having test days in the individual clubs.

Unfortunately over the past year Shearwater club was forced to closed down. Many have become members of St. Margaret's Bay Skating Club and other clubs in the region. Things are working out for all concerned.

We have been able to hold a few meetings over the past year but not with full club participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Jackson

# A YEAR IN MOTION

**Board Meeting**  
May 7th 2016 10:00 am  
Cole Harbour Place

MOTION: Approval of the February 21st 2016 Minutes amended to reflect gift to Jill and wording of NPC participation by NB

Moved by: Terry  
Seconded by: Braden  
Carried –

MOTION: Approval of the agenda as amended and changes to the sequence maybe adjusted as required

Moved by: Juanita  
Seconded by: Sheila  
Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the competitions for 2016 - 2017 Fall Competition, as presented

Moved by: Sheila  
Seconded by: Byron  
Carried -

Adjournment moved by Sheila at 12:25

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
May 7th, 2016 (post AGM)  
Cole Harbour Place

MOTION: To allow our invited guests a voice but not a vote at this meeting.

Moved by: Juanita  
Seconded by: Terry  
Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the agenda with Skater Development plans added.

Moved by: Byron  
Seconded by: Heather  
Carried -

Motion : To adjourn the meeting at 5:25 by Braden Davie

**Budget Meeting**  
**June 12th, 2016**  
**Sport Nova Scotia**

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended and to adjust the order as needed.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: John

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the May 7th 2016 Pre AGM Minutes as presented.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Sheila

Carried –

MOTION: Approval of the May 7th 2016 Post AGM Minutes as presented.

Moved by: John

Seconded by: Juanita

Carried –

MOTION: That we purchase 10 tables at a cost of \$112.00 each plus shipping and handling to replace the old wooden official's tables at competitions.

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Terry

Carried –

MOTION: Approval of the Financial Statement as presented

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: John

Carried –

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 Terry

September 24th, 2016

10:00

Pictou Wellness Centre

MOTION: Approval of the agenda as amended with the addition of the approval of the minutes of June 12th 2016 and to be adjusted if necessary.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Braden

Carried -

Motion: The Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board will terminate Byron Humber's position as a Board Member of the Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board effective immediately.

Moved by: Carrie Chiasson

Seconded: Will Cobbett

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the June 12th 2016 Minutes as approved.

Moved by: Will

Seconded by: Sheila

Carried –

MOTION: That the Hall of Fame Ceremony be held Saturday June 10th 2017 at the Dalhousie University Club

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Braden

Carried –

MOTION: Approval of the Financial Statement as Presented

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried –

MOTION: Approval of the 2016 -2017 Budget as presented.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Will

Carried –

MOTION: That Skate Canada Nova Scotia will pay the entry fees for those skaters qualifying for Challenge and Canadians for the 2016 – 2017 season

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried –

Motion: to adjourn the meeting made by Juanita at 1:28

### **Conference Call Meeting**

**Tuesday September 27th 2016 8:00 pm**

MOTION: The Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board accepts the Decision put forth by the Panel Members that reviewed the letter of complaint from the Dartmouth Skating Club, pending the Skate Canada approval that the penalties that were brought forth in the decision are within the scope of the Section to be carried out.”

Moved by Braden Davie

Seconded by: Terry Ackles

Carried - unanimously

Motion: The Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board will terminate Byron Humber’s position as a Board Member of the Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board effective immediately.

Moved by: Carrie Chiasson

Seconded: Will Cobbett

Carried - unanimously

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 was made by Terry

**November 20th, 2016**

**10:00**

**Sport Nova Scotia**

MOTION: Approval of the agenda as presented and the ability to be adjusted if necessary.

Moved by: Terry

Seconded by: Braden

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the September 24th 2016 Minutes as presented.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried Terry abstained

Action Jill to write the phone call meeting of September 27th 2016

MOTION: Approval of the minutes of the conference call meeting September 27th 2016

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Terry

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the Board of Directors Code of Conduct as amended with a social media clause added and Skate Canada policy numbers as appropriate.

Moved by: Braden

Seconded by: Sheila

Carried -

MOTION: Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile categories will no longer compete at Sectionals, as of November 2017

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: John

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the Financial Statement as Presented

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Terry

Carried –

MOTION: Jill Knowles attends the Canadian Sport for Life Summit Jan 24th to 26th Gatineau \$369.00 + taxes

Moved by: Terry

Seconded by: Sheila

Carried –

MOTION: A \$500.00 bursary be given to up to 13 skaters selected to attend the National Performance Clinic in St John's NFLD February 12th & 13th 2017 and a Team Leader be sent with this group of skaters.

Moved by: John

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried –

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 Carrie

### **Board Meeting**

**March 11th, 2017 9:00**

**Sport Nova Scotia**

MOTION: Approval of the September 27th 2016 in Camera Minutes as presented.

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Will

Carried - Fallis abstained

MOTION: Approval of the November 20th 2016 Minutes as presented

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: John

Carried - Fallis abstained

MOTION: Approval of the agenda as presented or amended and the ability to be adjusted if necessary.

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Braden

Carried -

MOTION: Approval of the Financial Statement as Presented

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried -

MOTION: That Skate Canada Nova Scotia once again offers a club a \$500.00 bursary for a club member to attend the Ice Summit, submissions due by March 25th 2017

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Will

Carried-

Carried - MOTION: That Skate Canada Nova Scotia will give a \$500.00 bursary for the Halifax Skating Club to attend the Ice Summit

Moved by: John

Seconded by: Heather

Carried -

MOTION: That Skate Canada Nova Scotia offers a club a \$1,000.00 bursary for a coach to attend STAR University if we are allocated an additional spot from Skate Canada

Moved by: Juanita

Seconded by: John

Carried - Fallis abstained

MOTION: The Club Dispute Resolution document to be adopted as a working document and circulated to all clubs.

Moved by: Braden

Seconded by: Will

Carried -



MOTION: That Skate Canada Nova Scotia give the Kentville Revolution Juvenile Synchro Team \$5,000.00 to attend the Nexice International Seminar

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Fallis

Carried – Juanita abstained

MOTION: that 2 new STAR 1 – 4 competitions be held in the 2017 – 2018 season as a pilot project. Locations to be determined by the Competitions Committee

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Carrie

Carried –

MOTION: Mandatory accreditation of all officials and coaches for all competitions

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Will

Carried –

MOTION: STAR 4 categories will receive medals in future competitions

Moved by: Sheila

Seconded by: Juanita

Carried –

MOTION: Alyssa Cross receive the Tier 6 funding as of March 2017

Moved by: John

Seconded by: Juanita

Carried –

Adjournment Sheila moved adjournment at 2:21

# **NOMINATING REPORT**

## **April 2017**

Nomination forms were sent to all Skate Canada Nova Scotia Member Clubs and Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board of Directors February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 with a reminder on March 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 via e-mail to all clubs.

The following positions are up for election for a two-year term. These nominations were received by the close of nominations on March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017.

<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Braden Davie</b>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>Juanita Bezanson</b>
<b>Members at Large (2 positions)</b>	<b>Natalie Doroshenko</b>
	<b>John Matattall</b>
	<b>Fallis Thompson</b>

All the above nominees have met the requirements as per the rules of Skate Canada and the Constitution of Skate Canada Nova Scotia.

As per the Constitution:

Nominations from the floor will only be received providing the Chair of the Nominating Committee has received the consent of the nominee in writing at least fifteen (15) days prior to Skate Canada Nova Scotia's Annual General Meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

Full resumes for candidates are available upon request.

Submitted by;

Terry Ackles

Nominating Chair SCNS